

# 1999-2000 Livestock & Dairy Summary

## CATTLE

All cattle inventory as of January 1, 2000 was 420,000 head, down 20,000 head or 5 percent from the January 1, 1999 inventory. The inventory value for cattle was estimated at \$235.2 million, up 11 percent from the revised 1999 value of \$211.2 million. Value per head averaged \$560, up \$80 from 1999. The 1999 calf crop was 200,000 head, down 5,000 head or 2 percent from 1998. All cows that have calved, at 220,000 head, was down 5,000 head from 1998. Beef production for 1999 totaled 121.6 million pounds liveweight, down 6 percent from the revised 1998 production of 130.0 million pounds. Marketings totaled 146.5 million pounds, up 5 percent from the revised 1998 production of 139.5 million pounds. The average price per hundredweight was \$46.30 for cattle and \$74.70 for calves, compared to \$46.90 and \$65.90 respectively in 1998. Value of production decreased 4 percent from the revised \$64.4 million in 1998 to \$61.6 million in 1999. The gross income, including home consumption, totaled \$79.0 million, an increase of 5 percent from the revised 1998 value of \$75.1 million.

## MILK

The average number of dairy cows in West Virginia during 1999 was 18,000 head, unchanged from 1998. The total milk produced was 275 million pounds, down from the 278 million in 1998. The milk used on farms totaled 3 million pounds, unchanged from 1998. There were 272 million pounds marketed, down from the 275 million pounds in 1998. Cash receipts from the milk marketed totaled \$41.3 million, down from the \$42.4 million in 1998. The gross producer income, including home consumption, totaled \$41.5 million, down from the \$42.5 million in 1998.

## SHEEP AND LAMBS

Sheep and lamb inventory on January 1, 2000, was estimated at a record low 37,000 head, down 3,000 head from the previous year. The inventory value, at \$3.5 million, was 6 percent above the revised 1999 value of \$3.3 million. Value per head averaged \$95.00, up \$12 from the previous year. The 1999 lamb crop totaled a record low 36,000 head, down 2,000 head from last year. Sheep and lamb production for 1999 totaled 3.2 million pounds, down 15 percent from the revised 1998 production. The average price per hundredweight was \$24.60 for sheep and \$72.80 for lambs, compared to \$25.50 and \$71.80 respectively in 1998. The value of production totaled \$2.2 million, down 13 percent from the revised \$2.5 million the previous year. The gross income, including home consumption, totaled \$2.5 million, down 9 percent from the revised \$2.7 million in 1998. Sheep shorn in 1999 totaled 33,000 head, down 2,000 head from 1998. The average fleece weight was 5.8 pounds, giving a production of 190,000 pounds. The average price per pound was 24 cents, down 27 cents from the previous year. Value of production totaled \$46,000, down 43 percent from the 1998 value of \$107,000.

## SHEEP & LAMB PREDATOR LOSS

A total of 3,600 head of sheep and lambs were lost from animal predators during 1999. This represented 45.0 percent of the 8,000 head of sheep and lambs lost from all causes and resulted in a loss from predators to farmers of \$194,000.

Coyotes were the largest cause of sheep and lamb losses to predators. A total of 2,100 head was lost, accounting for 58.3 percent of the total losses from all animal predators. Dogs were the second largest cause, with 1,100 head, accounting for 30.6 percent of the sheep and lamb losses due to predators.

Fencing, night penning and lamb sheds were the main non-lethal methods used to prevent sheep and lamb losses.

## HOGS AND PIGS

Hog and pig inventory as of December 1, 1999, totaled a record low of 12,000 head, down 4,000 head from 1998. The inventory value was estimated at \$888,000, up 21 percent from the revised value for 1998. The pig crop totaled a record low of 16,000 head, down 50 percent from the 1998 total. Pork production for 1999 was 4.2 million pounds, a decrease of 41 percent from the revised 1998 production. Marketings totaled 4.2 million pounds, down 29 percent from the revised 1998 marketings. The average price per hundredweight was \$30.20, down from the revised 1998 price of \$34.00. The value of production was \$1.3 million, a 48 percent decrease from the revised value of production last year. The gross income from hog production, including home consumption, totaled \$1.5 million, a decrease of 41 percent from the revised 1998 value of \$2.5 million.

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